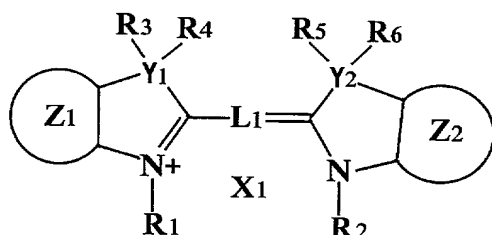


WE CLAIM:

1. In an optical recording medium which comprises a substrate and a recording layer provided on said substrate by using an organic dye compound and which records information by irradiating said recording layer with a writing light to act on said organic dye compound to form a pit on said substrate, the improvement wherein said organic dye compound has an absorption maximum at a wavelength longer than that of the writing light.

2. The optical recording medium of claim 1, wherein said organic dye compound is represented by Formula 1;

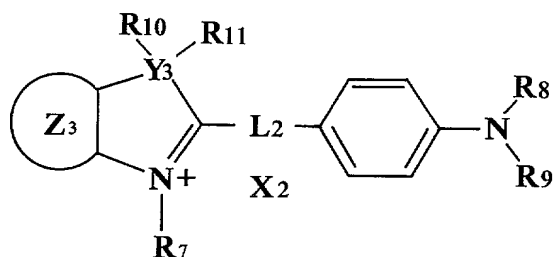
Formula 1:



in Formula 1, Z<sub>1</sub> and Z<sub>2</sub> denote the same or different optionally substituted aromatic rings; Y<sub>1</sub> and Y<sub>2</sub> independently denote carbon atoms or hetero atoms; R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> denote optionally substituted aliphatic hydrocarbon groups; R<sub>3</sub> to R<sub>6</sub> independently denote hydrogen atoms or compatible substituents, and when Y<sub>1</sub> and Y<sub>2</sub> are hetero atoms, the whole or a part of R<sub>3</sub> to R<sub>6</sub> does not exist; L<sub>1</sub> denotes a polymethine chain which may have a substituent and/or a cyclic group; and X<sub>1</sub> denotes a compatible counter-ion.

3. The optical recording medium of claim 1, wherein said organic dye compound is represented by Formula 2;

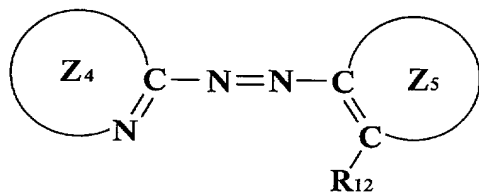
Formula 2:



in Formula 2,  $Z_3$  denotes an optionally substituted aromatic ring;  $Y_3$  denotes a carbon atom or a hetero atom;  $R_7$  to  $R_9$  denote the same or different optionally substituted aliphatic hydrocarbon groups;  $R_{10}$  and  $R_{11}$  independently denote hydrogen atoms or compatible substituents, and when  $Y_3$  is a hetero atom,  $R_{10}$  and/or  $R_{11}$  do not exist;  $L_2$  denotes a polymethine chain which may have a substituent and/or a cyclic group; and  $X_2$  denotes a compatible counter-ion.

4. The optical recording medium of claim 1, wherein said organic dye compound is a metal complex of an azo compound represented by Formula 3;

Formula 3:



in Formula 3,  $Z_4$  and  $Z_5$  denote the same or different optionally substituted aromatic hydrocarbon groups or heterocycles; and  $R_{12}$  denotes an acid base.

5. The optical recording medium of claim 1, which uses

a laser beam with a wavelength of 700 nm or less as a writing light.

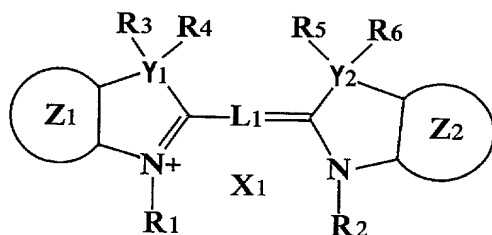
6. The optical recording medium of claim 1, wherein said organic dye compound has an absorption maximum with a wavelength less than 850 nm.

7. The optical recording medium of claim 1, which uses, in said recording layer, one or more other dye compounds sensitive to visible light and/or a compatible light-resistant improver(s) in combination.

8. In an optical recording method to record information by using an optical recording medium comprising a substrate and a recording layer provided on said substrate by using an organic dye compound and irradiating said recording layer with a writing light to act on said organic dye compound to form a pit on said substrate, the improvement comprising using, as a main organic dye compound for forming pits, an organic dye compound which substantially absorbs a writing light with a wavelength longer than the absorption maximum of said organic dye compound, and irradiating a recording layer on a substrate with the writing light to form a pit on said substrate.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said organic dye compound is represented by Formula 1;

Formula 1:

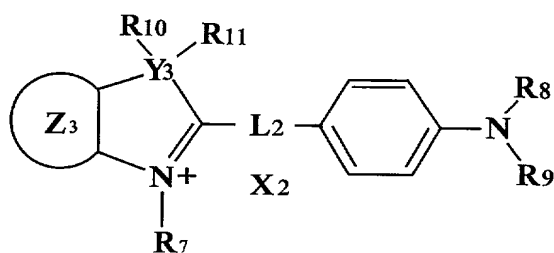


in Formula 1, Z<sub>1</sub> and Z<sub>2</sub> denote the same or different optionally

substituted aromatic rings;  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  independently denote carbon atoms or hetero atoms;  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  denote optionally substituted aliphatic hydrocarbon groups;  $R_3$  to  $R_6$  independently denote hydrogen atoms or compatible substituents, and when  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  are hetero atoms, the whole or a part of  $R_3$  to  $R_6$  does not exist;  $L_1$  denotes a polymethine chain which may have a substituent and/or a cyclic group; and  $X_1$  denotes a compatible counter-ion.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein said organic dye compound is represented by Formula 2;

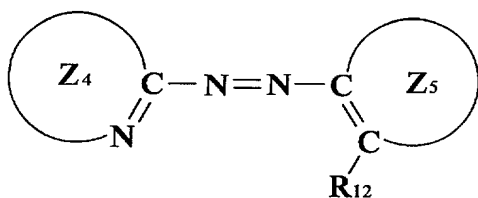
Formula 2:



in Formula 2,  $Z_3$  denotes an optionally substituted aromatic ring;  $Y_3$  denotes a carbon atom or a hetero atom;  $R_7$  to  $R_9$  denote the same or different optionally substituted aliphatic hydrocarbon groups;  $R_{10}$  and  $R_{11}$  independently denote hydrogen atoms or compatible substituents, and when  $Y_3$  is a hetero atom,  $R_{10}$  and/or  $R_{11}$  do not exist;  $L_2$  denotes a polymethine chain which may have a substituent and/or a cyclic group; and  $X_2$  denotes a compatible counter-ion.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein said organic dye compound is a metal complex of an azo compound represented by Formula 3;

Formula 3:



in Formula 3,  $Z_4$  and  $Z_5$  denote the same or different optionally substituted aromatic hydrocarbon groups or heterocycles; and  $R_{12}$  denotes an acid base.

12. The method of claim 8, which uses a laser beam with a wavelength of 700 nm or less as a writing light.

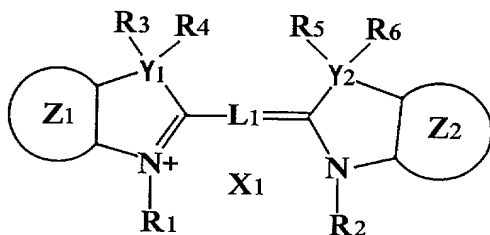
13. The optical recording medium of claim 8, wherein said organic dye compound has an absorption maximum with a wavelength less than 850 nm.

14. The optical recording medium of claim 8, which uses, in said recording layer, one or more other dye compounds sensitive to visible light and/or a compatible light-resistant improver(s) in combination.

15. An organic dye compound as claimed in claim 1 or 8.

16. The organic dye compound of claim 15 represented by Formula 1;

Formula 1:

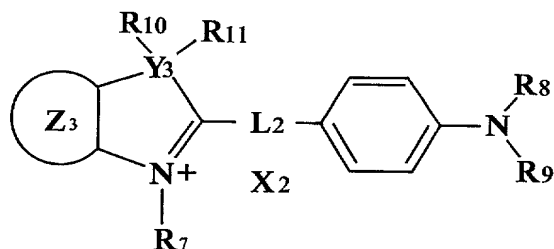


in Formula 1,  $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  denote the same or different optionally

substituted aromatic rings;  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  independently denote carbon atoms or hetero atoms;  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  denote optionally substituted aliphatic hydrocarbon groups;  $R_3$  to  $R_6$  independently denote hydrogen atoms or compatible substituents, and when  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  are hetero atoms, the whole or a part of  $R_3$  to  $R_6$  does not exist;  $L_1$  denotes a polymethine chain which may have a substituent and/or a cyclic group; and  $X_1$  denotes a compatible counter-ion.

17. The organic dye compound of claim 15 represented by Formula 2;

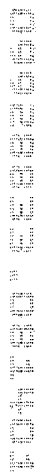
Formula 2:



in Formula 2,  $Z_3$  denotes an optionally substituted aromatic ring;  $Y_3$  denotes a carbon atom or a hetero atom;  $R_7$  to  $R_9$  denote the same or different optionally substituted aliphatic hydrocarbon groups;  $R_{10}$  and  $R_{11}$  independently denote hydrogen atoms or compatible substituents, and when  $Y_3$  is a hetero atom,  $R_{10}$  and/or  $R_{11}$  do not exist;  $L_2$  denotes a polymethine chain which may have a substituent and/or a cyclic group; and  $X_2$  denotes a compatible counter-ion.

18. The organic dye compound of claim 15, which is a metal complex of an azo compound represented by Formula 3;

Formula 3:



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